ER8-5400

9 AUG 1956

The Honorable Jesses E. Surray Chairman Consistes on Interior and Insular Affairs United States Somate Washington, D. C. BERUMENT NO.

EL COMMENT NO.

Dear Senator Marray:

Further information on titanism activity in the Seviet Bloc has some to our notice since Mr. Bulles* letter of) Murch 1956.

According to a press article in Frompublianno-Eksnonisheskeys Gasota (Industrial-Economic Genetic) dated 1 July 1956, titanium elso-trodes up to 80 millimeters in diameter are in use in the USSR. Our industry uses electrodes about twice this size. We are rolling impute of titanium of one-two tens. We believe that the Seviete have only recently been able to roll one-half to one ton ingets.

Since our first letter on this subject, we have convened a second Government-wide conference on Seviet titanium developments. The conclusions of this conference were as follows:

- A. The Seviet titanium industry as of June 1956 may have reached small-scale compercial production.
- b. Information available to date is too fragmentary to base a quantitative estimate of titenium preduction in the UESR.
- e. Evidence of Seviet utilization of titanium metal and alloys in aircraft or for other applications is lacking except for experimental work. Of course, ferro-titanium is used in steel manufacture.

We have found a reference to titenium technology in the East German literature which will be of interest to you. In the <u>Zeitschrift Chemis-Ingeniour-Technik</u>, We. 4, 1956, reference is made to experiments "on a technical scale" for production of titenium eponge by a modified Krell process (reduction takes place in means instead of in a noble gas atmosphere) at the Bitterfeld plant of V.E.E. Electrochamisches Kombinat. This plant is well-chosen for the experiments in the light of its extensive experience in the production of magnesium.

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I shall continue to keep you informed of new developments as they

Simeeraly,

/s/ Norman S. Paul

Secreta S. Paul Legislative Counsel

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ODDI: (8 August 1956)

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